Formation of a Regulatory Commission

tl831. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

"by when the action regarding formation of a Regulatory Commission would be taken for proper control over the-rates, supply of coal and its quality"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): The Government has appointed the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad as Consultant to examine various issues including the need for a regulator, in consultation with all the stakeholders and then to suggest a suitable regulatory frame work. The appointment of coal regulator would require legislative approval. Hence, it is difficult to suggest a time frame for formation of a regulatory authority.

Losses incurred by CIL

tl832. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal mines of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) which are running in losses at present;

(b) the amount of loss incurred to the company every year as a result of mines running in losses; and

(c) the action being taken to improve the condition of these mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The number of coal mines which are running in losses and the amount of loss incurred by CIL and its subsidiaries during 2006-2007 are given as under:

Company	No. of mines in losses	Amount of Loss (Rs. in crore)
Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL)	103	1164.44
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL)	87	969.53
Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL)	37	487.50
Northern Coalfields Ltd. (NCL)	-	-
Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL)	44	334.49
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL)	46	345.10
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL)	7	74.46
North Eastern Coalfields/ Coal India Ltd. (NEC/CIL)	3	73.49
TOTAL:	327	3449.01

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Following actions are being taken by the coal companies to improve the conditions of these mines:-

(1) Mechanization of underground mines with suitable intermediate technology *i.e.* Side Discharge Loader (SDL), Load Haul Dumper (LHD) alongwith transport system to improve production and productivity of the mines.

(2) To deploy low cost continuous miner for viable economics, wherever possible.

(3) To replace Surveyed off equipments with new fleet of Heavy Earth Moving Machine (HEMM) for improving availability and utilization.

(4) Identification of isolated and fire effected patches for working through hired HEMMs.

(5) Introduction of Mechanized loading in place of manual loading.

(6) Rationalization of manpower.

Allotment of coal fields

† 1833. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that 745 applications have been received for the allotment of 15 coal fields in the country;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether petitioners include those people also to whom coal fields have been allotted for mining earlier;

(d) if so, the names of those people and names of the people out of them who have not made any production as per rule in the allotted coal fields so far; and

(e) whether Government would blacklist such petitioners of these coal fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 745 applications were received for 15 coal blocks earmarked for allocation to power sector under the captive use dispensation.

(c) and (e) Yes, Sir. There are 36 applicant companies which have applied for power blocks and were already allocated coal blocks for different end uses. A list indicating names of 36 companies and status of production from the block allocated to them is given in the Statement *{See* below). The list also indicates names of such allocatees which have not started production.

The allocatees of coal blocks, who have not started production so far, are in various stages of obtaining statutory clearances and mining lease, preparing

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.